Post Implementation Evaluation Report

Storage Area Network – Kansas State University

Project Dates: 9/2002 through 5/2003
Project Cost: $1,118,732

Project Objectives
Implement a Storage Area Network (SAN) for centrally managed critical enterprise data, creating a strong foundation for high availability, security and growth of data center systems. Disparate disk sets, arrays and tape backup systems made management tedious, complex and costly. Many systems had single points of failure and I/O access limitations. As storage needs increase, these problems would continue to reduce the functionality and scalability of these systems. It was difficult to create a uniform failure recovery methodology. Some of the systems either did not have fault tolerant disk storage or had a very basic setups. Tape backup systems were isolated and vary between systems. Isolated storage made it impossible to mirror all critical data across geographically dispersed locations for Disaster Recovery/Business Continuance plans. Kansas State University in its mission of offering distance learning, digital library access, and the Integrated Information Initiative, is encompassing new technologies. Data storage requirements to achieve these directives will far exceed our current structure capabilities.